

Education

- 2022** Ph.D. – Governance and Policy Analysis, Maastricht University, June 2022
- *Dissertation: Limiting Media Freedom in Democratic States: How Governments Use Instruments to Curtail Media Freedom*
- 1995** Master of Arts – Latin American Studies, Georgetown University, May 1995
- *Dissertation: Transitions to Democracy in Argentina and Chile*
- 1993** Bachelor of Arts – International Relations, Florida International University, May 1993

Academic Employment:

- Adjunct Professor, Department of Politics and International Relations, Florida International University, May 2021- Present
- Adjunct Professor, School of International and Public Affairs, Florida International University, January 2024- Present
- Research Fellow – Adam Smith Center for Economic Freedom (Co-lead on the Latin America and Caribbean Political, Economic, and Social Risk Index Project)

Professional Employment

Founder, EDF Consulting Inc, (2001-Present)

- Provides senior strategic counsel to USAID and various multilateral organizations in the areas of press freedom, disinformation, democracy, anti-corruption, rule-of-law, judicial reform, strategic communications, and crisis management.
- Select projects:
 - Mobilizing Action Against Corruption Activity (Armenia)
 - Justice Reform and Modernization Program (Colombia)
 - Criminal Justice System Strengthened Project (Dominican Republic)
 - Democracy Strengthening Program (El Salvador)
 - Transparency and Integrity Program (Guatemala)
 - Effective Justice to Combat Criminality and Corruption (Honduras)
 - Youth Violence Prevention Program (Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador)
 - Haiti Recovery Initiative (Haiti)
 - Judicial Reform Project (Jordan)
 - Institutional Development and Training Program (Nicaragua)
 - Millennium Challenge Corporation Country Program (Paraguay)
 - Millennium Challenge Corporation Justice Strengthening Project (Rwanda)
 - Duteze Imbere Ubutabera (Let's Promote Justice) Activity (Rwanda)
 - Promoting Integrity in the Public Sector Activity (Ukraine)
 - State-Owned Enterprises Reform Activity (Ukraine)
 - Oversight and Accountability of U.S. Government Direct Budget Support (Ukraine)
- Counsels private sector companies in the areas of political risk, strategic communications, and crisis management.

Countries of Work Experience

Argentina, Armenia, Bolivia, Brazil, Cambodia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Georgia, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jordan, Latvia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Spain, Slovenia, Philippines, Ukraine, Venezuela, Vietnam, and the United States.

PUBLICATIONS

Book

Limiting Media Freedom in Democratic States: How Governments Use Instruments to Curtail Media Freedom. Boekenplan Publishing, 2022.

Selected Articles

U.S.-Latin America Relationship: What we can expect from the Biden Administration. IDEAS LLYC (2021).

The Possible Impact of COVID-19 on the 2020 U.S. Elections. IDEAS LLYC (2020).

U.S. Foreign Policy Towards Latin America under Trump: Beyond Business as Usual. Developing Ideas (2017).

U.S. Foreign Policy Towards Latin America in the Trump Era. *UNO Magazine*, vol. 28 (2017).

ALBA, A Political Tool for Venezuela's Foreign Policy. Western Hemisphere Security Analysis Center, Florida International University (2011)

Cuba's Role in Venezuela's Control of the Internet. Western Hemisphere Security Analysis Center, Florida International University (2010). Republished by the Institute for Cuban and Cuban American Studies, University of Miami (2011).

Teaching Experience

Classes developed and taught in traditional (in-person), virtual, and hybrid formats.

- Florida International University – International Relations of Latin America
- Florida International University – Politics of Latin America
- Florida International University – Reputation and Crisis Management in Global Affairs
- Florida International University – International Organizations (Scheduled: Fall 2024)

Most Recent Conference Presentations

“Press Freedom Erosion in Latin America.” Michigan State University, April 4-6, 2024.

“Disinformation in Latin America.” Michigan State University, April 4-6, 2024.

“Press Freedom in El Salvador.” Virtual, Florida International University / Inter-American Press Association, March 7, 2024.

“The Global Electoral Cycle.” Virtual, Florida International University/ Inter-American Press Association, February 8, 2024.

“Russia’s Cuban Recruits in the War in Ukraine.” The Hudson Institute, September 27, 2023.

Personal

Board of Directors – Junior Achievement Americas

Board of Directors – National Academy Foundation (NAF)

Board of Advisors – Cuban Research Institute, Florida International University
